The A. F. of L. Weekly News Service gives a brief summary of important matters affecting labor occurring in the industrial, legislative and judicial fields, and such other information that will benefit the trade union movement.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

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It is much easier to be critical than to be correct.—Beaconsfield.

WHOLE NO. 1093. | WILLIAM GREEN, President | WASHINGTON, D. C., SATURDAY, MARCH 19, 1932 | FRANK MORRISON, Secretary | VOL. 22. NO. 2.

All Cleared Broadcast Channels Allocated to the Vested Interests

Organized Labor Representatives Tell Senate Committee That the Federal Radio Commission Showed Prejudice Against the Workers by Refusing a Cleared Channel to Station WCFL and Urge Legislation Assigning to Labor One Cleared Channel with Unlimited Time and Maximum Power.

Washington, March 19.—The Federal Radio Commission has created a grant in radio trust by "prejudiced" allocation of all the cleared radio channels to groups made up of the vested interests and has refused to allocate a cleared channel to labor.

This significant charge was made by the American Federation of Labor at a hearing held by a subcommittee of the Senate Committee on Interstate Commerce on the bill introduced by Senator Hatfield of West Virginia, authorizing the Federal Radio Commission to assign to labor one cleared channel on which a station would operate unlimited time with maximum power.

Chain of Labor Stations Planned

Representatives of the Federation, of Station WCFL, of Chicago, and of the shopcraft railroad labor organizations testified.

Spokesmen for the A. F. of L. declared that if Congress would grant them a cleared channel, the Federation will establish a chain of broadcasting stations to be the voice of Organized Labor throughout the United States.

The testimony of the labor representatives hinged about the request of Station WCFL, the "Voice of Labor," operated by the Chicago Federation of Labor, for permission to operate on a cleared channel.

Representatives of the station described the proposed high power cleared channel, and of the Commission's refusal to grant the request.

Broadcasting Trust Established

E. M. Sorkow, general manager of Station WCFL, and representative of the A. F. of L., charged that the Commission has established a trust by arbitrarily allocating to overlapping interests six or more cleared channel frequencies. He presented a resolution adopted by the 1931 convention of the Federation urging that these "prejudiced" allocations be investigated.

Radio Commission Victimizes WCFL

He told how the Commission had repeatedly ignored the station's application for a cleared channel, and said the Federation had the only way it can ever get such a frequency is by action of Congress.

"The Radio Commission," he said, "has granted 16 stations operating on cleared channels what is practically tested right to these frequencies."

Corporations Monopolize Channels

Mr. Sorkow declared that the Commission has distributed these cleared channels to the following groups: "Radio chains to corporations formed for the specific purpose of operating a broadcasting station; seven channels to corporations manufacturing radio equipment and supplies; ten channels to corporations dealing in merchandise of various kinds; eleven channels to corporations publishing newspapers; three channels to public utility corporations; five channels to insurance corporations; one channel (limited time) to a fraternal corporation; and one channel to a municipal corporation.

He explained that the Chicago station now shares time on the 970 kilocycle frequency with Station KJR, Seattle, Wash., and by the time split is not permitted to broadcast at night.

"We want a cleared channel for labor," he stated. "If Congress will grant us that right, we will spend between $200,000 and $400,000 to establish a chain of labor stations on that channel, with the central station at Chicago. The Radio Commission has trampled on the rights of labor, and we have come to Congress for a fair break."

Will Condemns Commission's Anti-Labor Position

Matthew Woll, third vice president of the Federation, testified that the Federation is "deeply concerned" in getting a cleared channel. He declared the rights and existence of the Federation have been disregarded while the Commission has allocated cleared channels to other interests.

"Regulations of the Commission operate to grant to a limited few the holders of licenses already granted," Mr. Woll explained, charging that "the whole concept of the use of original cleared channel licenses in perpetuity is not in fact."

Yost Favors Cleared Channel for Labor

He read from reports submitted to the Commission by Chief Examiner Ellis A. Yost, of the Commission, who recommended that the Chicago station's application be granted because the station operates in the public interest, convenience and necessity, and is financially and technically equipped to operate on a cleared channel with maximum power.

"Labor interests extend into many fields," Woll concluded. "The church, education, and other groups, all are influenced by labor. If these other groups wanted to start stations of their own, the Federation would have no objection."

Railroad Labor Group Asks Cleared Channel

Timothy Shea, assistant president of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Engineers, and representing the 21 standard railroad labor organizations having 2,000,000 members in normal times, presented a resolution passed by officials of these organizations, urging that the bill be passed.

Frey Charges Discrimination

John P. Frey, secretary of the Metal Trades Department of the A. F. of L., said the attitude of the Commission in refusing labor a cleared channel is discrimination." He urged passage of the measure.

WORK FOR JOBLESS IS MOST IMPORTANT THING

McGrady Tells Senate Committee That Creating Work for Our Eight Million Unemployed Is More Important Than Balancing the Budget—Gives A. F. of L. Support to La Follette Bill Authorizing $5,500,000,000 for Public Works Financed by Bond Issue.

Washington, March 19.—The most important thing for the Congress of the United States to do is to provide work for the eight million unemployed in order that they may live in decency and comfort.

Balancing the budget is a secondary matter.

These were the emphatic statements of Edward F. McGrady, legislative representative of the American Federation of Labor, to the Senate subcommittee on Education and Labor, in giving the full support of the Federation to the La Follette bill to provide for the administration of public works, to expand the public works plan, and to authorize a $5,500,000,000 bond issue to finance the projects.

Cost of Unemployment

"The principle criticism we have heard of this bill," Mr. McGrady testified, "is its cost. Our answer to that is that the cost of unemployment is daily increased eventually the cost of creating employment.

"We have notified the leaders in our Government that already the serious human consequences of unemployment are apparent in American families. There is loss of courage, bitterness, disrespect for law, and despair. These will last long after the depression.

Unemployment Figures

"We do not see any improvement up to the first of this month in spite of the program adopted by the present Congress. Our agents gathered from 29,000 points in the country during February shows in all skilled trades 31 per cent unemployed and 16 per cent part time, in the building trades 63 per cent unemployed and 16 per cent part time, in the metal trades 37 per cent unemployed and 24 per cent part time, and in the printing trades 14 per cent unemployed and 21 per cent part time.

Mr. McGrady presented the following comparative figures on unemployment in these trades for the last three years during the month of February:

	Per Cent		
	1930	1931	1932
All trades (unemployed)	22	27	31
Building trades	42	52	63
Metal trades	18	29	37
Printing trades	5	10	14

"We don't look for any material increase in employment for 1932 or 1933," Mr. McGrady told the Committee. "We therefore do not have just as much suffering next Winter as we have had during the past Winter, but the Federal Government will take the initiative to create work for the people."

Recommends Home Building Loans

The witness earnestly recommended the provision in the La Follette bill to loan $100,000,000 to limited-dividend corporations for construction of houses.

"There are 12,000,000 families in the United States today," he said, "who are housed little better than animals. There are millions of houses in which there is no running water, no heat, no gas, no electricity. This is largely true in the agricultural areas, particularly in the Southern States." He described such housing provision as "money well spent," which would "draw great dividends."

Balancing the Budget

"We are not afraid that the Government will be unable to balance its budget," continued Mr. McGrady. "We have little patience with the propaganda in the press and in Congress that the outstanding thing for the present Congress to do is to balance the budget. We maintain that the outstanding thing is to provide work for human beings in order that they may live in decency and health and comfort.

"For that reason the American Federation of Labor wants to place its approval on this type of legislation."

CONFEREES MODIFY ANTI-INJUNCTION BILL

Washington, March 19.—The Senate and House conferees agreed to strike from the Norris-LaGuardia anti-injunction bill a Senate amendment prohibiting Federal courts from issuing mandatory injunctions. With this change they agreed to present a unanimous report assuring final approval of the bill which has passed both houses.

After the adoption by the Senate and House, the bill will go to President Hoover for his signature.

Borah Denies Retarding Senate Action on Wilkerson

Washington, March 19.—Denial that the Senate Judiciary subcommittee was delaying action on the nomination of Charles Wilkerson, of Virginia, to be a judge of the Federal Circuit Court was made in the Senate by Senator Borah, chairman of the subcommittee.

Senator Norris of Nebraska, chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, predicted the rejection of the nomination. Organized labor opposed the confirmation of Wilkerson, because of his drastic injunctions against labor in the Kanawha Valley coal fields of 1923 and against the musicians' union.

Ohio Governor Convenes Assembly to Help Jobless

Columbus, Ohio, March 19.—Governor George White announced he would call a special session of the Ohio General Assembly to consider the enactment of immediate relief of poor relief legislation.

The inability of local private and public relief organizations to provide adequately for the jobless necessitated the governor's determined the Governor to convene the legislature.

Canadian Telegraph Companies Substitute Pay-Cut for Lay-Off

Montreal, Can., March 19.—Canadian National Telegraph and Canadian Pacific Telegraphs notified the Commercial Telegraphers Union that for one year commencing April 1 a straight salary cut of 10 per cent would be introduced to take the place of the two-day lay-off, which it was stated had been found unsatisfactory.

Government Commission Urged To Regulate Soft Coal Industry

Senator Davis and Representative Kelly Favor Agency to Control Output and Fix Prices by Waiving the Antitrust Laws—Self-Government of the Industry and Right of Mine Workers to Organize and Bargain Collectively Assured.

Washington, March 19.—Government leadership in stabilizing the soft coal industry was urged by Senator Davis and Representative Kelly of Pennsylvania in hearings before the subcommittee of the Senate Committee on Interstate Commerce on the Davis-Kelly bill to create a Federal supervisory agency, waive applicable antitrust laws and establish price-fixing arrangements.

"While serving as Secretary of Labor and acting as mediator during a strike of bituminous miners," Senator Davis stated, "it was said by one who was well known in financial circles that a profit could not be made out of mining coal, but that the profit was to be made by selling the corporations or the securities of the corporations.

Profits and Good Wages Possible

"I am not in accord with that statement. I believe the bituminous coal industry can be put upon a solid, sound, substantial basis, with profits both to the investors and managers, and good wages to the men who mine the coal.

Hoover Condemns Destructive Competition

"In summing up the coal industry, my opinion is practically the same as that of President Hoover, who said relative to the coal industry in an address before the American Federation of Labor convention in Boston in October, 1930:

> "One key to solution seems to lie in reduction of this destructive competition. It certainly is not the purpose of our competitive system that it should produce a competition which destroys stability in an industry and reduces to poverty all those within it. Its purpose is rather to maintain that degree of competition which induces progress and protects the owners from our regulatory laws be at fault, they should be revised."

Bill Has Labor Support

The Davis-Kelly bill is supported by the United Mine Workers of America and the American Federation of Labor. It would set up a bituminous coal commission by which all corporations engaged in mining or shipping in interstate or foreign commerce must be licensed, and establish marketing pools with price-fixing powers under the control of the commission.

The mine workers would have the right to deal collectively with employers in setting wage standards, and "yellow dog" contracts would be banned.

Abolition of Mine Workers' Poverty

"By the principles embodied in the bill," Senator Davis said, "I am confident the industry's claims can only be stabilized and operated at a profit, but the poverty which stalks through coal mining communities can be abolished, and several million impoverished mine workers and their families and dependents can be restored to the ranks of American consumers. The purchasing power thus developed would also assuredly start us on the way out of the existing depression."

Government Control Necessary

Although ordinarily opposed to government interference in business, Senator Davis said the failure of the coal operators to find a way out left no other alternative.

"I have been reluctantly, therefore, forced to the conclusion," he went on, "that the United States Government must furnish leadership if the intolerable conditions which confront us are to be remedied. With a spirit of reason and compromise on the part of the coal operators and coal workers, the coal problem can and will be solved through governmental cooperation."

Adequate Wages and Fair Return for Investors

Prices under the price-fixing agreements provided for in the measure, Senator Davis explained, "must provide for adequate wages for the miners and a fair return for the investors."

"The bill does not contemplate any arbitrary governmental interference with industry," Senator Davis concluded. "Under its provisions, industrial self-government is assured. Operators are permitted voluntarily to come together and agree on a program of production and prices subject to governmental review and approval.

Right of Workers to Organize

"As to the prohibition to exemption from the antitrust laws, marketing pools and selling associations, approved by the governmental agency created by the bill, are required to recognize the fundamental industrial right of the mine workers to organize and bargain collectively through representatives of their own choosing.

Nonunion Labor Permitted

"On the other hand, should a coal corporation elect to operate independently of any marketing pool or organization, it may continue to employ nonunion labor, but its employees may terminate their employment at will and join a labor organization.

"The bill also provides that the members of the union in nonunion districts shall be protected in their constitutional rights of free speech and assemblage in conducting meetings or campaigns for the purpose of solidifying membership in bituminous districts."

Bans Cut-Throat Competition, Says Kelly

Representative Kelly described the bill as "a frank attempt to eliminate the destructive competition, the most destructive sort by an equally frank price-fixing and production regulation plan."

"The bill contemplates that the mines now operated by the Bituminous Coal Commission, said, would be borne as is the cost of operation of the Federal Reserve Board, and suggested that a tax of one-tenth of one cent per ton on coal handled in interstate commerce would provide ample funds.

Green Denounces Sales Tax as Unjust to Masses

It Would Fall Most Heavily Upon People Already Suffering From Unemployment and Wage Reductions, A. F. of L. Head Says—Prices of Necessaries of Life Would be Raised and Return of Prosperity Delayed by Reduction in Buying Power of Millions—Labor Urges Defeat of the Tax.

Washington, March 19.—William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, issued a statement condemning the sales tax provision in the revenue bill being considered by Congress as adding to the misery already imposed upon the masses by reduced purchasing power.

Mr. Green said:

"The sales tax provision of the pending taxation legislation is strongly opposed by the American Federation of Labor.

"This position of the American Federation of Labor is based upon its traditional opposition to all forms of sales tax legislation.

"Whatever argument is offered in support of sales tax legislation during periods of reasonable prosperity cannot apply now.

"The existing economic situation adds to the strength of argument against the imposition of such a character of taxation.

"The sales tax would fall more heavily upon the masses of the people who are now suffering from unemployment than upon any other group of our citizenship.

"To add a sales tax to the reductions of wages which have been imposed upon wage earners during the last year would mean addition to the misery, woe and want which now prevails throughout the land.

"How can men and women who are unable to buy the bare necessities of life be expected to pay a sales tax upon the limited merchandise which they are able to buy?

"This proposed manufacturers' sales tax will affect the sale of clothes, shoes and a large percentage of foodstuffs.

"To impose this sales tax upon these necessities of life would mean that the masses, who are now purchasing only a limited amount, would be compelled to buy still less.

"It is a form of taxation which is contrary to the basis upon which we have always built our tax structure, namely, to relieve those who are least able and collect from those who are best able to pay.

The Democratic Convention, held in 1924, adopted the following declaration:

> "'We oppose the so-called nuisance taxes, sales taxes, and all other forms of taxation that unfairly shift to the consumer the burdens of taxation.'

"So far as the record shows this position, assumed by the Democratic Convention in 1924, has never been changed or modified.

"In the light of this declaration, it is now difficult to understand how and why the majority party in Congress should favor this character of legislation.

"The membership of organized labor holds that the burden of taxation must be equitably distributed upon all classes of people.

"The sales tax violates this sound principle because, in operation, it imposes a burden upon those who are unable to bear it.

"Such a tax as the proposed sales tax will tend to delay a return to prosperity.

"It will further destroy the very limited buying power now possessed by the masses of the people.

"It will prevent the sale of manufactured goods and it will mean less food, warmth and clothing for millions of men, women and children.

"Labor will call upon its friends in Congress to defeat that section of the taxation measure which provides for a sales tax."

GREEN OPPOSES SHIFT OF U.S. COMPENSATION BODY

Declares Efficient Work of Federal Employees' Compensation Commission Would be Jeopardized by Turning It Over to the Civil Service Commission.

Washington, March 19.—William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, in a letter to Representative Arthur W. Byrns, chairman of the Economy Committee of the House of Representatives, protested against transferring the United States Employees' Compensation Commission to the jurisdiction of the Civil Service Commission. The transfer had been proposed by certain plans alleged to be in the interest of reduced cost of administration.

Efficient Administration Jeopardized

President Green stated that he has taken a deep interest in workmen's compensation laws for over thirty years and participated in the enactment of the Ohio compensation act when he was a member of the legislature during the four-year period beginning with 1911.

He emphasized his belief that efficiency in administrating compensation laws demanded independent administrative bodies "free from political influences and from the dominating control of a political agency," and declared that the existing independent status of the United States Employees' Compensation Commission should by maintained."

"There is no logical connection between the administrative and quasi-judicial work of the Federal Employees' Compensation Commission and the duties of the Civil Service Commission," Mr. Green's letter concluded.

No Economies from Consolidation

"On the score of economy the proposed consolidation would in my opinion serve to increase rather than reduce the administrative costs of the Federal Employees' Compensation Commission.

"From a standpoint of equitable and dependable operation this consolidation would be certain to result in lessened efficiency.

"The Commission as now constituted has administered the law efficiently, keeping administrative costs to a minimum consistent with good service, and in a way that merits warmest commendation.

Independent Status Necessary

"Because of our peculiar interest in injured workmen, in the dependents of killed employes, and in the discharge of the duties of the United States Employees' Compensation Commission the American Federation of Labor regards it as its duty to oppose vigorously resist any attempts to weaken or impair the usefulness of the United States Employees' Compensation Commission.

"We regard this proposal to destroy its independent status as a blow at a vital principle in the administration of the workmen's compensation law, and we sincerely hope the 72nd Congress will not approve such a plan."

Six-Hour Day Inquiry Approved by Hoover

Washington, March 19.—President Hoover signed the resolution passed by Congress calling upon the Interstate Commerce Commission to investigate the feasibility of establishing six hours as a basic workday for railroad employes. Eight hours is the present basic day.

The Commission's report will include estimates of the cost of establishing the short day for all railway employes. The commission is also directed to determine what effect the shorter day would have on railway operation and service.

The resolution was urged by the Railroad Labor Executives' Association and the American Federation of Labor, who regard reduction of the hours as the only adequate method to attack unemployment caused by labor-displacing machinery.

Americans Ordered to Leave Russia, United Press Says

Moscow, March 19.—Several hundred Americans who are employed by the Soviet Socialist Republics looking for jobs and other benefits of the Communist State were informed that they must leave the country without delay, according to information given out by the United Press headquarters here.

The government, it was stated, has decided suddenly on tightening its regulations affecting foreigners.

Police Kill Strikers

Warsaw, Poland, March 19.—Two persons were killed and many injured by the police in connection with the general strike of 36,000 workers throughout Poland. The labor unions proclaimed the strike in protest against certain anti-labor laws enacted by the Polish parliament.

At Krakow and Zwyiec the police fired on the demonstrators, killing two of them.

Government Troops Called In Mexican Miners' Strike

Fresnillo, Zacatecas, Mexico, March 19.—Government troops arrived here "to preserve order" about the property of the Fresnillo Corporation silver mines in the wake of a strike of 2,000 workers.

The walkout came as the result of an attempt by the company to reduce wages.

The mines are controlled by foreign capitalists.

Pennsylvania Railroad Employes Give 2,500 Suggestions Yearly

Philadelphia, Pa., March 19.—Four years ago the officials of the Pennsylvania Railroad established a bureau of new ideas to bring out suggestions from employes for various sorts of improvements in the company' transportation system.

W. W. Atterbury, president of the company, announced that the employes are turning in about 2,500 practical suggestions annually. He said the percentage of ideas accepted was 32.3 per cent in 1931, 32.9 per cent in 1930, and 19 per cent in 1929.

JOB-FINDING CAMPAIGN PLACES OVER 250,000

Organized Labor Sets Up Local Organizations in Campaign for Work for Million Idle—Railroads and Coal Companies Take on More Men.

New York, March 19.—With over 250,000 workless workers placed in jobs and united action for employment campaign began, the big drive against depression forced its way to million jobs mark set up by the American Legion, the American Federation of Labor, the Association of National Advertisers, and the Legion Auxiliary, five weeks ago.

Local Organizations Set Up

Federation and Legion leaders, with their respective organizations, have found it a stupendous job to effect setups in over 6,000 towns and cities of 1,000 or more population, over the country. However, more than 22 per cent of these communities have workable committees and are bringing results.

Organized labor with its thousands of local unions has taken the lead in this great work in many communities where other bodies have been lax in their responsibilities.

In San Francisco the Central Labor Union and Legion posts consolidated their positions and the first day of the campaign raised $39,000 to provide payrolls for "made" jobs for the unemployed. This activity has been duplicated in numerous instances, reports show.

National and International Unions Help

The proclamations issued recently by the chief executives of national and international unions, calling on locals and central bodies to take up the fight against unemployment in co-operation with other organizations is expected to increase the total of jobs found, it is thew Woll, chairman of the labor division, said.

Chairman Woll expressed satisfaction at organized labor's activity in the campaign and its unselfish co-operation with other job-finding agencies.

Railroads and Coal Companies Provide Jobs

Reports to headquarters at the Hotel Biltmore show that better conditions exist in the railroad industry. A number of roads reported additional men put to work. The Rock Island put 66 workers in Kansas, Missouri and Iowa. The Pennsylvania, Missouri Pacific, and other lines added more men to their shop forces.

Several coal companies in Pennsylvania were reported to have added more miners to their payrolls, while a California sugar refinery, which usually lays off 1,000 or more workers at this season, decided to keep its plant open for work.

New Zealand Increases Jobless

Wellington, New Zealand, March 19.—The Department of Public Works threw 2,000 government employes into the unemployed army by a reduction of 1,250,000 pounds in expenditures.

BAN ON SOVIET IMPORTS REFUSED BY MR. MILLS

Secretary of Treasury Says Congress Should Decide If All Goods in Soviet Union Are Products of Forced Labor—Oddie Sponsors Proposed Prohibitive Legislation.

Washington, March 19.—The U. S. Treasury Department will not prohibit the importation of commodities from the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics on the ground that they are made by forced labor.

Secretary of the Treasury Ogden L. Mills made this statement to a delegation of patriotic and industrial societies who presented a petition asking the Treasury Department to bar Soviet Unibn products under the section of the tariff law which outlaws all goods made by forced labor unless the domestic supply is insufficient.

"The delegation, endorsed by 10 Senators, 26 Representatives and 54 societies, was headed by Senator Oddie of Nevada, a Republican economist.

Senator Oddie and the delegation maintained that the communistic system in the Soviet Union inherently involves forced labor.

Treasury Has No Power to Bar All Soviet Goods

In answer to the delegation's contention that Congress intended to prohibit the importation of all goods made in the Soviet Union, Secretary Mills declared that no such statement appears in the law, and that the delegation should petition Congress if they wanted legislation passed against Russian goods of all descriptions.

He said the Treasury Department has the right and obligation to decide whether goods from Russia shall be admitted, but has only to enforce the provisions of the statute to articles made by forced labor.

Extent of Forced Labor Not Determined

Seymour Lowman, Assistant Secretary of the Treasury in charge of customs matters, told the delegation that the United States with the Soviet Union now embraces only those goods which are essential to the American industries, such as manganese ore and pulpwood, which is therefore exempt under the present law.

Department of Commerce figures show that in 1931 the United States imported $12,611,157 worth of goods from the Soviet Union against $194,427,910 worth exported to the Union.

The American Manganese Producers' Association laid before Secretary Mills for the first time a statement claiming that Soviet Union manganese ore is produced by forced labor. The association's previous protests were based on the grounds that its importation violated the antidumping law.

At the conclusion of the hearing Senator Oddie said that legislation to bar commodities produced in the Soviet Union would be drafted and presented to Congress.

MUSCLE SHOALS PLANT FOR CHEAP FERTILIZER

Senate Committee Report Favors Government Operation of Power Plant in Alabama Unless Private Lease Guarantees Use of Project to Cheapen Fertilizer.

Washington, March 19.—The Senate Committee on Agriculture and Forestry wants the power plants at Muscle Shoals to be operated with the chief end of cheapening the cost of fertilizer to the American farmers, according to a report on the resolution for the disposition of the Muscle Shoals project submitted to the Senate by Senator Norris of Nebraska, the author of the resolution.

Authority is given the President for 12 months after the passage of the resolution to lease the nitrate plants and other properties for a term of 50 years. The lease guarantees that the project shall be used primarily for the production of fertilizer.

Joker in Private Bids

"In every bid that has been made," the report says, "it has always been discovered that the proposition had somewhere, very beautifully concealed within itself, a joker which, when exposed, clearly showed that the object of the lease was to get possession of the power facilities at Muscle Shoals and that the lessee was using the fertilizer proposition only as a blind to gain possession for private profit of the enormous power facilities which exist at Muscle Shoals."

Government Operation

If at the end of the 12-month period no lease has been made, then the Government would operate the project, and construct the Cove Creek Dam to make the Tennessee River navigable, thus enhancing the value of the present dam constructed with the public funds of the United States.

The resolution prescribes that the power produced shall be used in the operation of the locks on the Tennessee River and in the operation of experimental plants to discover new methods for the production of fertilizer with the object of cheapening its cost to the farmers of the entire nation.

The surplus power would be sold to people within transmission distance, with preference given to States, counties, municipalities and "farmer organizations organized not for profit but for the purpose of obtaining cheap light and power for their members."

If any power remained, it would be sold to private corporations for distribution to their customers at a price fixed by the Federal Trade Commission.

DEPRESSION HURTS WAGE-EARNING WOMEN

Director of U. S. Women's Bureau Says Many Women Workers are Sole Supporters of Family—Earnings of Factory Workers in Indiana Towns Less Than $13.35 Per Week.

Washington, March 19.—The large economic responsibilities imposed on wage-earning women, whether employed or jobless, by the depression are revealed by an investigation of two typical industrial communities made by the Women's Bureau of the U. S. Department of Labor.

During August and September, 1930, the bureau made a house-to-house survey of South Bend, Ind., and the adjoining town of Mishawaka, covering 3,245 women.

In describing the economic conditions of women workers found by the survey, Mary Anderson, director of the Women's Bureau, said:

Sole support of Families

"A woman was found to be the sole wage earner in 368 families, and in about 100 of these cases she had five or more persons to support. The fact that in 134 families in which the husband was out of work the wife was the sole wage earner illustrates forcibly the reason for not discriminating against employed married women.

Unmarried Women Workers

"Fifty-three of the unemployed married women of the 368 had to take their families and go and live with relatives. Almost half of the 2,700 families represented had no one with steady employment or no one at work at the time of the survey.

Hours and Earnings Reduced

"Wage cuts and reduced hour schedules had been generally accepted by many women during the 12 months prior to the survey, it was found. Both hours per day and days per week had been curtailed for more than 1,100 women. Some 1,700 women reported reduced earnings. More than three-fourths of 1,195 women in manufacturing industries had had a 20 and under per cent decrease in earnings through reduced hour schedules or wage cuts.

Less Than $13.35 Per Week

"Data from South Bend and Mishawaka factories on wages of 2,746 women for a week in September, 1929," Miss Anderson concluded, "revealed median earnings of $17.80—half of the women earning more and half less than this sum. In September, 1930, 2,483 women were reported, and these had a median of $13.35, showing a 25 per cent